STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER JESSICA ROSENWORCEL

Re: Comprehensive Review of Licensing and Operating Rules for Satellite Services, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (September 28, 2012)

Satellite services provide vital communications links to the most remote regions of the country. They connect our troops around the world. They provide an important backstop for public safety communications when terrestrial networks are down.

So I am pleased to support today's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, which takes a fresh look at our satellite licensing and operating policies. In this Notice, we seek to update our satellite rules to reflect new technologies, eliminate outdated reporting requirements, and streamline our licensing procedures. These are good things. They set us on a path toward speedier application grants, which will mean faster deployment of new services to the public and more opportunities for innovation and investment in the satellite industry.

Thank you to the International Bureau for its work on this item.